

**What is claimed is:**

sub. A1  
 1. A liquid distributor said distributor being in the form of a channel distributor comprising a drainage outlet in the form of a drainage pipe having a cross-section, at the upper end of the drainage pipe, which tapers downward in the shape of a nozzle.

2. The distributor of claim 1 wherein said drainage pipe extends upwards from the bottom of the distributor and comprises an inlet opening above the bottom of the distributor.

3. The distributor of claim 2 further comprising a hood, with at least one opening, said hood covering said inlet opening of the drainage pipe against the direct inflow of liquid.

4. The distributor of claim 3 wherein one of the openings of said hood is a horizontally encircling annular gap.

5. The distributor of claim 4 wherein said annular gap is interrupted by webs between the upper and lower parts of said hood.

6. The distributor of claim 3 wherein a plurality of bores, acting as openings are arranged in a horizontally encircling line around said hood.

7. The distributor of claim 3 wherein at least one bore is in the top of said hood.

8. The distributor of claim 3 wherein the area enclosed by said hood is divided, by an annular inner wall having at least one opening, such that the inlet of said drainage pipe is situated within said annular inner wall.

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9. The distributor of claim 3 wherein said nozzle-like tapering of said drainage pipe is formed by a insert arranged in said drainage pipe and with the upper edge of said insert being held in place by the inner wall of said hood.

10. The distributor of claim 3 wherein said drainage pipe comprises an external screwthread by which said drainage pipe is screwed both to the bottom of said distributor and to said hood.

11. The distributor of claim 1 wherein a preliminary distributor is fitted into the main channel of said distributor and the base of said preliminary distributor extends over the drainage pipes in the form of domes.

12. The distributor of claim 11 wherein a sieve is inserted into said preliminary distributor between the inlet and outlet.

13. The distributor of claim 1 wherein the material of construction of the inner wall of the nozzle is selected from the group consisting of metal, ceramic, graphite, plastic or a combination thereof.

14. The distributor of claim 13 wherein the inner wall of the nozzle is made of plastic.

15. The distributor of claim 1 wherein the distributor is used to distribute liquid in substantially vertical reactor with a fixed catalyst bed.

16. A method of distributing liquid in a substantially vertical reactor with a fixed catalyst bed wherein the distributor of claim 1 is used to enact even distribution of a feed liquid.

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17. A method for the hydrogenation of native fats, oils, fatty acids, and fatty acid ester in a substantially vertical reactor with a fixed catalyst bed wherein the distributor of claim 1 is used to enact even distribution of a feed liquid.
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